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U.S. Application No. 10/720,892 Examiner Nelson Art Unit 2109
Response to July 26, 2007 Office Action

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

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- [c01] (Cancel)
- [c02] (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 12, further comprising extending trust-based credit to the user based upon at least one of the user's payment history, the user's usage history, and the user's credit history.
- [c03] (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 2, wherein extending trust-based credit to the user comprises linearly predicting the user will pay for the requested communications service based upon at least one of the user's payment history, the user's usage history, and the user's credit history.
- [c04] (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 12, further comprising extending trust-based credit to the user based upon at least one of the user's payment history, the user's usage history, and the user's credit history, wherein the trust-based credit is extended even though another service provider of another communications network may provide the communications service.
- [c05] (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 12, further comprising billing the user for the communications service.
- [c06] (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 12, further comprising aggregating billing charges between the other service providers of the other communications networks.
- [c07] (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 12, further comprising communicating a single billing statement from a single service provider, the single billing statement aggregating billing charges between the other service providers of the other communications networks.

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- [c08] (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 12, further comprising electronically communicating a single billing statement to the client communications device, the single billing statement aggregating billing charges between the other service providers of the other communications networks.
- [c09] (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 12, further comprising providing the requested communications service.
- [c10] (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 12, further comprising billing a credit card for the aggregated charges.
- [c11] (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 12, further comprising allocating additional network bandwidth to fulfill the request for communications service, the allocation of additional network bandwidth based upon the user's payment history and usage history.
- [c12] (Currently Amended) A method of providing communications services, comprising:
- ~~sending~~ ~~receiving~~ a request for communications service, the request for communications service originating from a user's client ~~communications~~ device ~~associated with a user~~, the request for communications service communicating ~~communicated~~ via a communications network to a service provider;
- negotiating, at the user's client device, ~~permitting the user to negotiate~~ with other service providers of other communications networks to fulfill the request for communications service; and
- accessing a segmentation profile stored in memory, the segmentation profile containing user preferences for presenting billing charges from the other service providers of the other communications networks.
- [c13] (Currently Amended) A method of providing communications services, comprising:

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receiving a request for communications service, the request for communications service originating from a client communications device associated with a user, the request for communications service communicated via a communications network to a service provider; and

negotiating, at the user's client device, ~~permitting the user to negotiate~~ with other service providers of other communications networks to fulfill the request for communications service.

[c14] (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 13, wherein permitting negotiation with the other service providers comprises negotiating on behalf of the user associated with the client communications device.

[c15] (Currently Amended) A computer program product comprising computer readable media storing processor-executable instructions for performing a method of providing communications services, the method comprising:

receiving a request for communications service, the request for communications service originating from a client communications device associated with a user, the request for communications service communicated via a communications network to a service provider;

negotiating, at the user's client device, ~~permitting the user to negotiate~~ with other service providers of other communications networks to fulfill the request for communications service; and

accessing a segmentation profile stored in memory, the segmentation profile containing user preferences for presenting billing charges from the other service providers of the other communications networks.

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- [c16] (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 13, further comprising extending trust-based credit to the user based upon at least one of the user's payment history, the user's usage history, and the user's credit history.
- [c17] (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 13, further comprising billing the user for the communications service.
- [c18] (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 13, further comprising aggregating billing charges between the other service providers of the other communications networks.
- [c19] (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 13, further comprising communicating a single billing statement from a single service provider, the single billing statement aggregating billing charges between the other service providers of the other communications networks.
- [c20] (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 13, further comprising billing a credit card for the aggregated charges.
- [c21] (Currently Amended) A computer program product comprising computer readable media storing processor-executable instructions for performing a method of providing communications services, the method comprising:

receiving a request for communications service, the request for communications service originating from a client communications device associated with a user, the request for communications service communicated via a communications network to a service provider;

negotiating, at the user's client device, permitting the user to negotiate with other service providers of other communications networks to fulfill the request for communications service.

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[c22] (Currently Amended) A system providing communications services, ~~the system operative to comprising:~~

means for receiving ~~receive~~ a request for communications service, the request for communications service originating from a client communications device associated with a user, the request for communications service communicated via a communications network to a service provider; and

means for negotiating, at the user's client device, ~~permitting the user to negotiate~~ with other service providers of other communications networks to fulfill the request for communications service.

[c23] (Currently Amended) A system providing communications services, ~~the system operative to comprising:~~

means for receiving ~~receive~~ a request for communications service, the request for communications service originating from a client communications device associated with a user, the request for communications service communicated via a communications network to a service provider;

means for negotiating, at the user's client device, ~~permitting the user to negotiate~~ with other service providers of other communications networks to fulfill the request for communications service; and

means for accessing a segmentation profile stored in memory, the segmentation profile containing user preferences for presenting billing charges from the other service providers of the other communications networks.